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REVIEWED BY NLCS DATE 10/25/82

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TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY BANGUI VOA 1 IMMEDIATE ATTENTION FAIRCHILD FROM VOA-AFRICA DIVISION. VOA/PA ENGLISH SAFARI PROGRAM 0300 AND 0600 GMT JUNE 11 BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING U.S. OPIONION ROUNDUP TITLED "MASSACRE IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE:"

ANNCR: SEVERAL AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS HAVE COMMENTED EDITORIALLY ON THE RECENT MASSACRE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE.

THE DAILY OREGONIAN REPORTS:

VOICE: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SAID...THAT THE IMPERIAL GUARD OF EMPEROR BOKASSA I...ROUNDED UP AND THEN CLUBBED, BAYONETED AND STONED TO DEATH UP TO 100 SCHOOL CHILDREN WHO PROTESTED WEARING UNIFORMS TO CLASS.

THE MASSACRE IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE IS AN ANGUISHING SETBACK TO INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ADVANCE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS. IT IS A GRISLY MILESTONE IN THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD.

ANNCR: THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC SAYS: THAT EMPERIOR BOKASSA HAS BECOME ANOTHER IDI AMIN, AND THE REPUBLIC CONTINUES:

VOICE: THIS IS SOMETHING NO ONE EVER EXPECTED OF BOKASSA. LIKE AMIN, THE DEPOSED DICTATOR OF UGANDA, WHO CALLED HIMSELF THE CONQUEROR OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, BOKASSA HAS ALWAYS SUFFERED FROM DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR-AND, LIKE AMIN, HE ALWAYS HAS RULED WITH AN IRON HAND.

ANNCR: THE DETROIT FREE PRESS WRITES THAT THE MASSACRE BY BOKASSA'S GUARDS IS THE IND OF STORY THAT THE WORLD REACTS TO WITH PECULIAR HORROR AND HELPLESSNESS. THE NEWSPAPER EXPRESSES THIS CONCERN:

VOICE: AS LONG AS LEADERS SUCH AS BOKASSA KEEP THEIR ATROCITIES WITHIN THEIR OWN BORDERS, THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS SEEMS POWERLESS TO ACT AGAINST THEM. OUR WEAPONS IN SUCH CASES APPEARS SO LIMITED--CONDEMNATION, GRADUAL ISOLATION, OCCASIONALLY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, AND INDEED, IT ALMOST ALWAYS REQUIRES THE REVULSION AND FINALLY THE REBELLION OF THE VICTIMS THEMSELVES TO BRING ABOUT A CHANGE IN REGIME.

ANNCR: RECALLING THAT ONLY A FEW MONTHS AGO IT SEEMED FUTILE TO CRY OUT AGAINST THE BRUTALITIES OF IDI AMIN WHO HAS BEEN DRIVEN FROM UGANDA, THE DETROIT FREE PRESS GOES ON TO SAY:

VOICE: WE CAN ONLY HOPE A SIMILAR FATE MAY BE IN STORE FOR BOKASSA, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE STUDENTS PROTEST REFLECTED A WIDER DISSENSION WITHIN HIS CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE.

(OPT) THE EMPEROR RULES OVER A PIECE OF WHAT WAS ONCE

WIDER DISSENSION WITHIN HIS CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE.
(OPT) THE EMPERIOR RULES OVER A PIECE OF WHAT WAS ONCE FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA, AND, SINCE HE IS PARTIALLY DEPENDENT UPON FRANCE, HE WILL BE MOST VULNERABLE TO ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC PRESSURES FROM THAT COUNTRY. FOR WHATEVER GOOD IT DOES, THIS COUNTRY SHOULD JOIN THE CONDEMNATION OF HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS GROWING REGION OF TERROR, AND USE WHAT LEVERAGE WE HAVE IN AID OF HIS PEOPLE. IT MAY SEEM A USELESS GESTURE-BUT TO DO NOTHING WOULD BE WORSE.

ANNCR: THE ST. LOUIS POST-DPSPATCH REPORTS THAT THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRES AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE HAS RESIGNED AFTER CONFIRMING THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT ABOUT THE MASSACRE. THEN, IN ITS EDITORIAL TITLED "CONVENIENT BLIND SPOT" THE ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH ADDS:

VOICE: FRANCE, WHICH ONCE GOVERNED THE AREA, HAS NOW HALTED ITS MODEST MILITARY AID. THE UNITED STATES, AFTER AN UNFORTUNATE DELAY, RECALLED ITS AMBASSADOR. BUT WHAT HAS THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY DONE? VERY LITTLE.

THE OAU HAS BEEN QUICK TO ADVISE THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION THATTHE ELECTIONS IN RHODESIA-ZIMBABWE WERE UNFAIR AND THAT THE U.S. OUGHT NOT TO RECOGNIZE THE MZOREWA GOVERNMENT. IT HAS ALSO TAKEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO CRITICIZE SOUTH AFRICA FOR ITS RACIST POLICIES. THE COMMENTS ON WHITE-DOMINATED COUNTRIES IN AFRICA MAY WELL BE DESERVED, BUT THE CREDIBILITY OF THE ORGANIZATION IS HARMED BY ITS RELUCTANCE TO SPEAK OUT ON ATROCITIES IN BLACK-RULED COUNTRIES. ITS SILENCE WAS PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE CONCERNING THE BUTCHERY BY IDI AMIN.

ANNCR: CONCLUDING THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH SAYS:

VOICE: THE OAU OUGHT TO TRY TO CONDUCT ITS OWN INVESTIGATIONS INTO CHARGES AGAINST ITS MEMBER STATES. IT IS A WEAK ORGANIZATION, TO BESURE, AND COULD IMPOSE FEW MEANINGFUL PENALTIES. BUT NEITHER ITS STRENGTH NOR ITS STANDING IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ENHANCED WHEN IT CHOOSES TO IGNORE THE EXPLOITS OF RULERS SUCH AS IDI AMIN AND BOKASSA.

ANNCR: RECALLING THAT FOREIGN AID TO UGANDA WAS CUT OFF UNTIL FINALLY AMIN WAS UNABLE TO SUSTAIN THE MERCENARY FORCES THAT KEPT HIM IN POWER, THE DENVER POST (RPT DENVER POST) HINTS THE SAME MIGHT BE DONE IN THE CASE OF BOKASSA:

VOICE: THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT ALONE IN SUSPENDING ASSISTANCE-OTHER CIVILIZED NATIONS OF THE WEST FOLLOWED SUIT. EMPEIOR BAKASSA, WHOSE SAVAGE ACTS HAVE BROUGHT ECONOMIC RUIN TO HIS COUNTRY AND CEASELESS TERROR TO HIS PEOPLE, DESERVES THE SAME TREATMENT. IT SHOULD COMMENCE AT ONCE.

ANNCR: AND WITH THOSE COMMENTS FROM THE DENVER POST..WE CONCLUDE THIS EDITION OF VIEWPOINT..A SAMPLING OF AMIERCAN EDITORIAL OPINION ON THE RECENT MASSACRE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE. I'M YOUR VIEWPOINT EDITOR..KEN KEMPER IN WASHINGTON. ROUNDUP PREVIOUSLY BROADCAST ON ENGLISH BREAKFAST SHOW 0500 GMT JUNE 7. FRENCH TO AFRICA BROASDCAST SUMMARY OF OPINION ROUNDUP 1930 AND 2100 GMT JUNE 6. ITEM

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